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Nashville District

DistrictDigest

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September 2003

Women Celebrate Passage of 19th Amendment

by Dave Treadway

Nashville District employees celebrated Women's Equality Day Aug. 27 to commemorate the passage of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution on Aug. 26, 1920. With that amendment, women won the right to vote, a major step toward equality in all aspects of American society.

Attendees viewed a film entitled "There's no such thing as women's work" that detailed the progress women have made in America from pioneers who helped shape the new nation, to World War II when they entered factories to 'free a man to fight'.

Ms. "Chris" Hinton-Lee, A.I.A., Director of the Military and Technical Directorate for the Great Lakes and OhioRiver Division (LRD), was guest speaker for the observance.

Hinton-Lee asked employees to remember three things; "You have the power to influence your own destiny, facts don't matter, and it's never too late."

While growing up in Greenwood, Miss., she recalled how that her parents didn't talk about 'can't' but encouraged her to pursue her dreams of becoming an architect, an occupational field dominated by men. With that encouragement from her father, whom she considered her first

of many mentors, she went on to become the first African American woman to earn a Bachelor of Architecture degree from the University of Arkansas. Later she made Maryland history by passing the state board exam and became the first black woman to be granted a license to practice architecture in that state.

Today she serves as the first woman to hold her current position and also the first architect to make it to the ranks of the Senior Executire Service in the Corps. In her previous position, Director of



"Chris" Hinton-Lee, A.I.A.

Engineering and Construction at Transatlantic Programs Center, who was the first woman and first African American. There she led a staff of 80 architects and engineers to design and construct a multimillion dollar construction program in the Middle East and Africa.

"Did you know that the bumblebee can't fly?" asked Hinton-Lee. "The bee's body is too large and not aerodynamic and the wings are too small. The bee doesn't know this so it flies anyway.

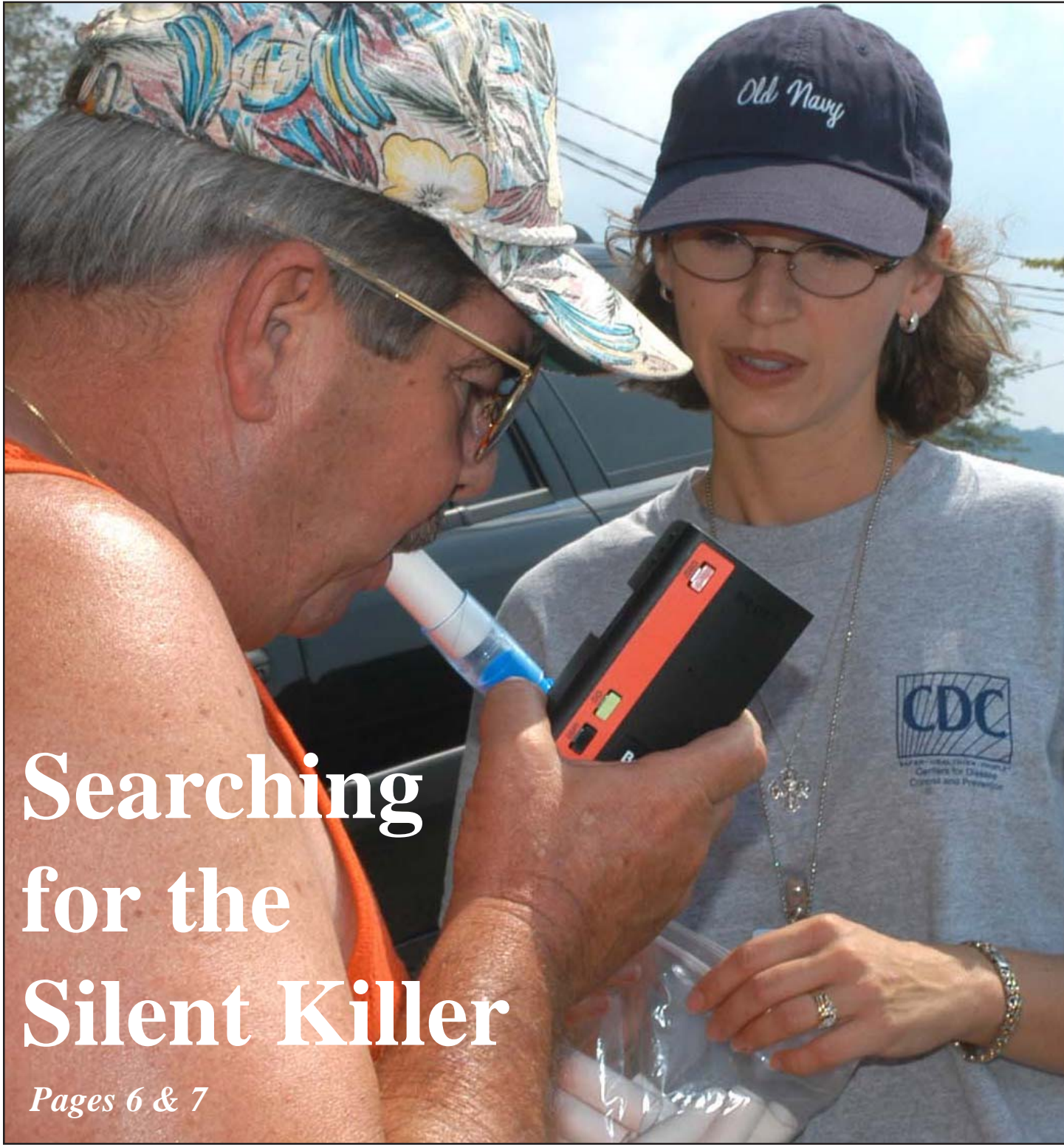
"Teach a child she can do something," urged Hinton-Lee. "She doesn't know that she can't, so she can."

Hinton-Lee shared, "When I was four, my father drew a stick figure on the wallpaper in my room and encouraged me to draw one beside it. I did and kept drawing that figure until I perfected it, filling up the whole wall. Those figures are still in my parent's house half a century later as testament to my father's encouragement. From that beginning, I continued to draw and pursued my dream.

Don't let anyone steal your dream!"

As proof that it's never too late, she revealed how, at 79 and 75, her father and mother successfully pursued their lifelong dreams of enrolling in four-year college and earning bachelors degrees.

While in Nashville, Hinton-Lee toured Metro Center Levee and Kentucky Lock.



Searching for the Silent Killer

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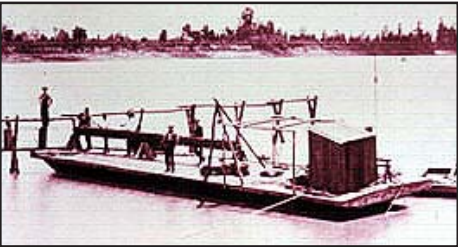
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September Dates in District History

1834 - Captain Henry Shreve and Richard Delafield examine Cumberland River from its mouth to Nashville and devise an improvement plan.



Capt. Henry Shreve and Richard Delafield.

1918, Sept. 2 - Lock & Dam C on the Cumberland River goes into operation.

1924, Sept. 8 - Widows Bar Dam on the Tennessee River completed.

1941 & 1951, Sept. 1 - Wolf Creek Dam groundbreaking is followed exactly ten years later by its dedication.

1954, Sept. 18 - Cheatham Lock & Dam dedicated.

1973 - Cordell Hull Lake was first filled.

1974 - Smithland Lock & Dam construction begins. 🏗️



Photo by Dave Treadway

On the Cover

Dr. Amanda Brown, Lead Epidemiologist for a study conducted by the Centers for Disease Prevention and Control in Atlanta, Ga., monitors a boater August 16 at Center Hill Lake to determine his exposure to carbon monoxide, the element often called the silent killer. Boaters are frequently exposed to high levels of carbon monoxide while participating in recreation activities. For complete story about the study at Center Hill, turn to page 6.

DistrictDigest

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Catfish, Tartar Sauce . . . and Good Company!

Story and photos by Park Ranger Mark Willis

Everyone loves a fish fry, especially one attended by all your favorite people. On Thursday, Aug. 7, the staff of Dale Hollow Lake held a catfish luncheon especially for some of their favorite people – the hardworking volunteers who selflessly donate their free time each year at Dale Hollow Lake.

Perhaps the most interesting thing about this particular fish fry was the somewhat unusual preparations prior to the event. To get ready for this volunteer luncheon, the staff at Dale Hollow Lake decided to see if they could catch enough catfish during their spare time to ‘put the meat on the table.’ Dale Hollow Lake Resource Manager Ronnie Smith added his own personal fishing boat to the cause.

Staff fishermen set out floating jugs after work, then checked them before daybreak the next morning before work. Limb lines eventually replaced floating jugs. When the freezer at Dale Hollow Resource Office could hold no more catfish, Volunteer Coordinator Gary Bruce began writing letters and making phone calls to the numerous volunteers who have been involved in Dale Hollow Lake resource management and recreation activities during the year. The roster of volunteers contains an interesting and diverse group of individuals, from as nearby as Celina, Tennessee, to as far away as the state of Washington.

Vic and Sheila Lowhorn, of Byrdstown, Tenn., were the first two volunteers to arrive at the fish fry. Vic and Sheila have volunteered an amazing 1200 hours each this year, in assisting the Corps in overseeing Gunnell’s Primitive Camping Area, located adjacent to the fishing camp and store they operate.

“I think this fish fry is a great idea,” said A.O. Haggard, another Dale Hollow Lake volunteer. “It not only gives volunteers an opportunity to get together with each other and catch up on what’s going on, but it’s also nice to be recognized [by the Corps] like this.” A.O. is not only an enthusiastic volunteer, but he’s also a park attendant at Lillydale Campground, one of Dale Hollow Lake’s



Part of the group of 25 volunteers who enjoyed a catfish dinner with all the trimmings courtesy of the staff at Dale Hollow Lake. The volunteers have contributed 5,443 hours of labor valued at more than \$57,000 this year.

most popular recreation areas. In his spare time (when he’s not busy checking in campers at the entrance station) A.O. has assisted the Dale Hollow staff with maintenance work on some of the lake’s primitive campsites.

Dale Hollow Lake Maintenance Mechanic Jerry Brown and Conservation Biologist Gregg Nivens served as the

official “catfish cookers” for the event, serving up tray after tray of crispy catfish and crunchy hush puppies. Nivens even prepared a special batch of “hot” Cajun catfish for the more daring eaters in the group. Twenty-five volunteers enjoyed their cookin’ at the first luncheon staged to honor them.

After everyone’s plates were empty and their bellies were full, Ronnie Smith described the unique contributions of these very special volunteers, while awarding each a framed Certificate of Recognition.

With the recreation season not yet over, this amazing group has already donated a combined total of 5,443 hours, valued at well over \$57, 200. Besides the generous donation of their own free time, these individuals have certainly proven they also have one other thing in common. Each of these hard-working volunteers has demonstrated a public-spirited concern for, not only our environment, but also for Dale Hollow Lake ... and that’s one thing you just can’t put a price on. 🏡



Dale Hollow Lake Resource Manager Ronnie Smith presents a certificate of appreciation to a volunteer.

The Corps Crowd

Congratulations to...

...Corrine Paris, Park Resource Office Assistant, Cordell Hull Lake, on the marriage of daughter Angela to Robert Johnson on June 14.

...Christine Rossi, who has been selected as the new Chief of Resource Management.

...Mark Klimaszewski, Park Ranger at Old Hickory Lake, on his marriage to Ashley McNeill in Maui, Hawaii on August 12th.

...Elizabeth Hurst, wife of Conservation Biologist Stephen Hurst, Cordell Hull Lake, graduated from Tennessee Tech with a B.S. in Interdisciplinary Studies in August. She graduated Magna Cum Laude.

...to J. Percy Priest Lake for being named Third Best Lake and Third Best Fishing Spot by readers of *The Tennessee Magazine* in the Third Annual Best of Tennessee Readers Choice Awards. Results were published in the June issue of the Magazine.

...Barbara Stack, who was recently promoted to the Budget Analyst position in the Resource Management Office, Budget Branch.

Welcome to...

...Kathy Canady as the new secretary in the to the Executive Office.

...four new faces at Dale Hollow Power Plant: Electrician Trainee Stanley Carter, Maintenance Worker Rodney Koger; Senior Electrician Chuck Ogle; and Senior Mechanic Glen Harriman.

Farewell to...

...Bonnie Rawle, who retired from the Corps after more than 30 years federal service with IRS, Army Office at Bell Helicopter, and the Corps, most recently in the Executive Office.

...Crystal James, Co-op Ranger Trainee at J. Percy Priest Lake, who left August 15 to return to school.

...Bill Jackson, who accepted a position as the Resource Manager, Barren River Lake, Louisville District. Bill adds, "As my time comes to a close here in Nashville and I move on up the road to Barren River Lake, I wanted to tell all of you



Photo by Dave Treadway

General James F. McCall, USA (ret), at right, installs the 2003-2004 officers in the Music City Chapter, American Society of Military Comptrollers, during the July chapter meeting in Nashville, Tenn. New officers are (from left) President Lucy Fears, 1st Vice President of Programs Victoria Caldwell, 2nd Vice President of Publicity Amanda Gill, 3rd Vice President of Membership Chynell Carney, Treasurer Corazon Mundy, and Secretary Dee Rivera.

‘Thank You’. My door is always open and you’re always welcome. I’m just an email or phone call away.”

Sympathy to...

...the family of Raymond Pharris, retired maintenance employee, J. Percy Priest Lake, who passed away September 4.

...Joe Conatser, whose mother, Marguerite, passed away August 14.

...Janice Nelson, Inspector at J. Percy Priest Resource Office, whose father E. Sam Fulghum, recently passed away.

Upcoming Events...

...the Combined Federal Campaign Agency Fair will host a talent show on October 8. Come share your talent with your friends and fellow co-workers. Just keep in mind that the fair is rated “G”. For more information, call Mickie Porter by phone: 736-7181 or email: Mickie.B.Porter@ltn02.usace.army.mil.

...the date has been set! The Annual Corps Christmas Luncheon and Play will be held at First Baptist Church on December 2. Be sure to mark your calendars. The event falls immediately after the Thanksgiving holiday this year, so plan your vacation time accordingly so you don’t miss it!! Keep your eyes and ears open for more information. 🏠

Fisherman, (Cont. from page 4)

responsibility for monitoring the operation of both J. Percy Priest and Cheatham Power Plants so I could concentrate on the emergency situation.”

Boling also made all necessary log entries and notified TVA and others who had to be made aware of the emergency shut-down. This allowed Thompson to concentrate on the rescue effort at hand and not worry about the other plants operated from Old Hickory.

“All I could think of was ‘Please let him be alive.’ I thank God this man got out alive,” concluded Thompson.

“I go there to fish,” said Keo, “or just to enjoy the scenery with friends. I hadn’t even caught any fish when I fell into the water.” Keo was bruised and scraped but otherwise alright when pulled onboard Talbert’s pontoon boat.

“As their supervisor,” said Power Project Manager Olga M. Beddingfield, “I am proud of the Old Hickory Power Plant employees who, once again, displayed superior professionalism in their quick response to Mr. Keo’s accident. Our employees’ training was evident in their rapid reaction to this emergency situation which resulted in a safe outcome for Mr. Keo. We are also grateful for Mr. Talbert’s presence and his assistance with the rescue.” 🏠

From Where I Sit

My second 30 days in command continues to be a whirlwind of visits and introductions to our great workforce, our higher headquarters, and Nashville District’s stakeholders. I continue to be impressed not only with the diversity of our mission, but with the caliber of people we have out there executing it. Thanks for all that you do for our Nation.

Some of you are aware that Headquarters USACE has asked each of the Districts to resource a Forward Engineering Support Team. This six-man team is scheduled to deploy to the Middle East during the summer of next year (2004). I encourage those folks with the desired talents and skills to strongly

Communication

consider volunteering for this 120-day mission. My own experience, based upon a six-month deployment leading a team of highly skilled USACE civilians to Kosovo, is that it is a very rewarding experience for every team member...having contributed to the livelihood and well-being of our overseas soldiers as well as our Nation’s strategic goals and objectives. USACE has often been called upon to do the “heavy lifting” of the Nation...and perhaps now more than ever...we’re being looked upon to give of the talents we possess, and refine, and nurture here at home. I know that deployments of this nature always have a very personal aspect associated with them and that every candidate has unique circumstances surrounding the overall decision. I want to make every effort to work with potential team members regarding their personal concerns and needs. I ask that each of you keep an open mind during our efforts to build and resource Nashville’s “A Team”...a team that will represent the best LRN has to offer. Further details will be forthcoming regarding pay and benefits as well as the actual mission assignment. MAJ Bob Pegg will lead the team. I look forward to speaking to many of you directly.

A few words on Competitive Outsourcing, sometimes termed “Strategic

Outsourcing” by HQ USACE to describe the use of commercial activities to meet Corps missions. I recognize that there has not been a great deal of information available on this topic. So, I offer to you what I know: LTG Flowers has designated himself as the “PM” on this topic and the source for communicating its status to the workforce. As you know, he has already sent a variety of emails directly to Corps members informing each of us of the current strategic sourcing status. While some may feel the process is proceeding slowly, I suggest that it is proceeding with a thoroughness and deliberateness that I’d expect of such an undertaking. We’ll all be the first to know of the new plan directly from the Chief as soon as it’s available. Ed Evans and his folks at PAO have established website links to a variety of source materials to ensure you have the widest access to all current and past information on this topic. I encourage you to remain engaged with the facts, as well as the unknowns, on this subject. Strategic Sourcing is going to happen...we know that for a fact. The extent of strategic sourcing is yet to be known. You and I will know...when we hear it from the Chief.

Before I go, I want to touch on safety. September is National Food Safety Month, sponsored by the Industry Council on Food Safety, and I want to pass on some of their advice. These are some common definitions that will help us understanding labeling on all packaged products:

August Employee of the Month

Lannie Summers, a contract specialist in the Contracting Division, is the Nashville District Employee of the Month for August.

For the entire period of January to August, Summers’ performance was above the call of duty as he helped ensure the mission of the District was met. During this period, the Architect/Engineer



Lannie Summers



* **Pull or “sell by “ date** - the last day manufacturer recommends item’s sale.

* **Freshness or quality assurance date** - date suggests how long the manufacturer thinks the food will remain at peak quality. The label might read, “best if used by October 2003.”

* **Pack date** - This is the date the food was manufactured, packaged or processed. Date is sometimes in code. For example, 217-3 may mean the product was packed on the 217th day of 2003.

* **Product codes** - Code dating helps manufacturers quickly identify, track and remove it from stores.

* **Expiration date** - The last day the product should be consumed. It might read, “Do not use after October, 2003.” State governments regulate these dates for perishable foods, such as eggs or any other product they chose to regulate. The bottom line is to shop carefully and observe the “sell by” date to avoid using any product which is not safe. 🏠

(A/E) Construction team functioned with only two contract specialists. He worked tirelessly to negotiate and award numerous task orders and contracts totaling \$21.5 million and willingly assisted other contract specialists.

In May, Summers also assumed the duties of the team leader for the A/E Construction team. In this new capacity, he not only functioned as a contract specialist, but also as a contracting officer. His knowledge of contracting is routinely sought by technical staff both within the District as well as by field employees. 🏠

Bush Names Asst. Secretary of the Army (CW)

On August 22, 2003, President George W. Bush appointed John Paul Woodley, Jr., as Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works). Sec. Woodley is responsible for the supervision of the Army’s Civil Works program, including programs for conservation and development of the national water resources, flood control, navigation, and shore protection. Prior to his appointment as the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works), Woodley served as the Assistant Deputy Undersecretary of Defense (Environment). In this capacity Woodley oversaw the Defense environmental program, encompassing both environmental restoration and compliance and pollution prevention efforts. He was also the principal advisor to the Secretary of Defense on environmental, safety and occupational health policy and programs Prior to his appointment as the Assistant Deputy Undersecretary of Defense (Environment), Woodley served as

Secretary of Natural Resources in the Cabinet of Virginia Governor Jim Gilmore from January 1998 until October 2001. As Secretary of Natural Resources, he supervised eight Virginia agencies responsible for environmental regulation, permitting and enforcement, natural and historic conservation, and outdoor recreation, including parks, fisheries and wildlife management. Woodley also served as Deputy Attorney General of Virginia for Government Operations beginning in 1994. The Government Operations Division of the Attorney General’s Office represented all state agencies in the areas of administration, finance, transportation, economic development, and natural resources. The new Secretary attended Washington & Lee University in Lexington, Va, on an Army R.O.T.C. scholarship. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Washington & Lee in 1974, and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. He also attended the Law School at Washington &

Lee, where he received his juris doctor degree cum laude in 1977. Sec. Woodley served on active duty with the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General’s Corps from 1979 until 1985 and retired from the Army Reserve in August 2003 as a Lieutenant Colonel. He has been awarded the Army Achievement Medal, the Army Commendation Medal (1st Oak Leaf Cluster), and the Meritorious Service Medal (2nd Oak Leaf Cluster). Sec. Woodley, 49, is a native of Shreveport, La. 🇺🇸



John Paul Woodley, Jr.

Quick Actions By Old Hickory Employees Save Fisherman

Compiled by Dave Treadway and Tiffany Hedrick

When fisherman Mark Keo decided to take a trip to Old Hickory Lake on August 4th, he planned to leave with a cooler full of fish and maybe some stories about “the one that got away.” Keo, who lives in east Nashville, had no idea he would take home instead memories of a chilling brush with watery death. Standing on rocks and fishing just below the dam shortly before noon, Keo stepped on what he believed to be a stable piece of driftwood. When the wood shifted, he slipped and fell into the churning water. “I was fishing with a couple friends,” recalled Keo, “when I slipped and fell in the water. I was swimming but the swirling water kept sucking me in.” Clyde Chambers, a contract security guard, heard Mark’s friends yelling for help and threw the rescue process into motion.

“I heard some noise and went to the window. Several people were pointing and yelling that someone had fallen in the water,” said Chambers. Without hesitation, he called the Power Plant control room and told the shift operator of the situation. Trainee Lisa Boling took the call and immediately notified Tommy Thompson, the Power Plant shift operator on duty. **Process** “When Clyde called and I realized that a man was in the water,” said Thompson, “I immediately performed an ‘Emergency’ shutdown on the generators by pulling the red handles on each unit. All four generators were on overload, meaning we were flowing 31,500 cfs (cubic feet per second) through them. That procedure shut them down in only six seconds.” Boling then manually applied the brakes on Unit #1 when she realized it had failed to stop turning. “Any hesitancy to act might have given

us a different outcome,” said Mike Ensich, Chief, Operations Division. Even with that action, Keo was pulled into the Unit #1 draft tube slot where he was able to “brace myself against the sides where it was rough. Then I could swim toward the light up above. I think I was in the water about five minutes,” related the lucky fisherman. “The swirling water rolled him around to the draft tube,” continued Thompson. “Once I shut off the turbines, and there was no turbulence, then he could swim. He was not wearing a life vest and that was not good, it meant he had to do all the work himself. “I dispatched Chris Campbell, an operator trainee, from the Control Room and he tried to position himself to throw a life ring to Keo. That wasn’t possible but fisherman Mark Talbert, who was nearby on his pontoon boat, quickly moved into position where he could retrieve Keo and return him to shore. “At the same time, Boling took **See Fisherman (page 10)**

Kentucky National Guard Drills at Martins Fork

by Park Ranger Dave Robinson

The peaceful silence of Martins Fork Lake was broken August 2 by the sounds of explosions and automatic weapons. Fortunately, it was only a drill. A platoon of soldiers from Company A, 1/149th Infantry Battalion (Mechanized), based in Harlan, Ky., was inserted near Martins Fork Lake on Friday evening to begin their weekend drill for the Kentucky National Guard. The soldiers were to conduct patrol operations throughout the night on Corps of Engineers’ property surrounding the lake and then practice assaulting an assigned objective. Early Saturday morning, another platoon of soldiers, including several new recruits, were inserted by helicopter onto the point across the lake from the beach at Smith Recreation Area to serve as the opposing force. Guard family members and members of the public were given ring-side seats for the drill across the lake at the Beachfront Picnic Shelter, with narration by Company Commander Captain (CPT) Stephen Fuson of Pineville, and Executive Officer First Lieutenant William Blevins of Frankfort. From there they could both coordinate the attack and explain what soldiers were trying to accomplish. The ‘attack’ began about 2 p.m. on Saturday. Artillery simulators, smoke grenades, and automatic weapons fire filled the air with noise and color. The ‘assault’ lasted only minutes and when the smoke drifted away and the noise subsided, it was as if it never happened. Preparations for the drill began in June. Company Readiness NCO Sergeant

First Class (SFC) Sonny Long of Harlan, contacted the Resource Managers Office to inquire about the possibility of conducting a drill exercise on Corps property. Park Ranger Dave Robinson met with SFC Long and the two scouted potential areas around Martins Fork that might prove suitable. They chose the area surrounding the Cumberland Shadow Trail and Harris Branch.



Family members of soldiers in the Kentucky Army National Guard get a close up look at an M60 Light Machine Gun and a Squad Automatic Weapon during drill on August 2.

The Company was looking for a local area to use for drill so that Guard families would be able to see their loved ones in action, according to Long. Long said the local environment would also allow some new recruits to get a taste of what to expect as a member of the National Guard. Several equipment displays, including HUMVEES, M35A2 trucks (“deuce and a half”), weapons, and radio equipment were set up to allow families to see the ‘tools’ soldiers regularly used. Several family members

experienced staccato sounds of the M2 50-caliber machine gun (shooting blanks, of course). At the conclusion of the platoon attack, soldiers joined family members at the Beachfront Shelter and were treated to a picnic prepared by the unit, along with a presentation by CPT Fuson. “Conducting the drill at Martins Fork Lake allowed families to see what their loved ones do as members of the National Guard. This also allowed them to meet other families and support their loved ones. We hope to be able to work with the Martins Fork Lake staff again to support our mission,” said Company First Sergeant Ottis Capps of Harlan. According to SFC Long, “A” Company’s mission is to close with and destroy the enemy. The Company routinely conducts drills at various locations including Fort Knox, and other Kentucky National Guard facilities to keep prepare themselves for assigned missions. CPT Fuson said “A” Company recently returned from a year-long deployment to Fort Bragg, N.C., where soldiers were part of the Security Task Force for U.S. Army Special Operations Command in Operation Noble Eagle. While at Fort Bragg, 12 soldiers earned the Army Parachutist Badge by completing the Army Airborne School. The 1/149th Battalion, comprised of soldiers from southeastern Kentucky, is scheduled to deploy to Fort Carson, Co., in May 2004 to train for a six-month deployment to the Sinai Peninsula. While in the Sinai, the battalion will serve with the Multi-National Force and Observers (MFO) to enforce the Camp David Peace Accords between Israel and Egypt. 🇺🇸

Eight District Lakes Seek Volunteers

Story and photo by Dave Treadway

You can become part of the largest volunteer effort in America by joining those who help tidy up eight Nashville District lakes on three weekends in September.

Lake Cumberland will host volunteers Sept. 13 for National Public Lands Day 2003, and five other Lakes -- Old Hickory, J. Percy Priest, Cheatham, Center Hill, and Cordell Hill -- will welcome volunteers Sept. 20 to help with a variety of projects. Dale Hollow Lake and Martins Fork Lake will then do the same on Sept. 27.

Thousands of Americans will take part in these and hundreds of other activities as part of the 10th annual observance. Each year, National Public Lands Day (NPLD) draws volunteers from every state to provide Helping Hands for America’s Lands.

Lake Cumberland will conduct a shoreline cleanup on Sept. 13 and, due to the size of the lake, volunteers are invited to assemble at two different times and multiple locations: 9 a.m. eastern time at General Burnside Island State Park, Waitsboro Recreation Area, Fishing Creek Recreation Area, Jasper Bend Launching Ramp, Omega Launching Ramp, and Conley Bottom Resort; 8 a.m. central time at Lake Cumberland State Park, Grider Hill Dock, and Jabez (across from Alligator Dock #1). Volunteers will be treated to a free cookout, entertainment, and prizes donated by area businesses. Call Park Ranger Judy Hargis at (606) 679-6337 for more information.

Volunteers at **Old Hickory Lake** will have a unique opportunity to give something back to the area and community by installing new benches, mulching flower beds, installing birdhouses, and removing trash along the trail at the Old Hickory Lake Environmental Study Area.

Check-in for this year’s event will be at the Study Area at the corner of Walton Ferry Road and Luna Drive and volunteers should arrive by 8 a.m. on Saturday. At 11 a.m., all volunteers will be treated to a lunch of pizza and drinks donated by



High School students at Lake Cumberland stack tires collected from the lake during NPLD 2002.

Gourmet Pizza and Purity Dairies. For more information or to pre-register, call Park Ranger Mark Klimaszewski at (615) 822-4846 or 847-2395.

J. Percy Priest Lake volunteers can celebrate Public Lands Day Saturday, Sept. 20, by assisting with cleanup of Primitive Island Campsites. Volunteers will travel to the islands on a scenic boat ride after meeting at Anderson Road Day Use Area at 9 a.m. Trash bags, gloves and refreshments will be provided. If you would like to enjoy this wonderful opportunity to be outdoors and participate, please call Park Ranger Justin Reed (615) 889-1975.

Cheatham Lake volunteers will help perform campsite/trail maintenance and improvement, cleanup of litter, and removal of non-native exotic plants. Those wishing to help with the effort should meet at Lock

A Campground at 9 a.m. Lunch will be provided. For more information, call Park Ranger Jerry Strother at (615)792-5697.

Center Hill Lake volunteers will install bird boxes, place interpretive placards, and perform maintenance and clearing on a nature trail. Those wishing to help should meet at the Buffalo Valley Nature Trail at 8 a.m. For more information, call Park Ranger Scott Fanning at (931)858-3125.

Cordell Hull Lake invites volunteers to help conduct a cleanup of the shoreline by meeting at the Defeated Creek Beach or Roaring River at 8 a.m.. Lunch will be provided at noon for volunteers. Call Park Ranger Travis Wiley at (615)735-1034 for more details.

Dale Hollow Lake will conduct a shoreline cleanup on Sept. 27. Volunteers can check in starting at 8 a.m. at any of the following locations: Obey River Day-Use, Lillydale Day-Use, Pleasant Grove Recreation Area, and Dale Hollow Lake State Resort Park. Following this event, all cleanup volunteers are invited to participate in a free cookout at Dale Hollow Dam Recreation Area beginning at 1 p.m. Numerous door prizes, including a free houseboat rental, savings bonds, cash, T-shirts, etc. will be awarded during the cookout. Call Park Ranger Gary Bruce at (931)243-3136 for more information.

Martins Fork Lake will also conduct a shoreline cleanup on Sept. 27 and volunteers should meet at 9 a.m. at the Hilltop Picnic Shelter. Call Park Ranger Dave Robinson at (606)573-1468 for more details.

NPLD provides an opportunity for Americans to contribute to the betterment of public lands. Besides making a difference through the stewardship of beautiful lands and lakes, Nashville District employees who participate will help fulfill a goal of the Nashville Business Plan to have 2,500 volunteers work 55,000 hours.

At least 70,000 volunteers are expected at 500 sites across the country. The National Environmental Education and Training Foundation estimates that the work of volunteers, and community contributions of food, tools, and equipment, will result in more than \$8 million dollars in improvements nationwide. 🏠

Price Returns From Duty In Kuwait

by Dave Treadway

When duty called, Nashville District Contract Specialist Sharon Price answered that call.

She served in Kuwait from Feb. 9 until July 21 with her Army Reserve unit, the 678th Personnel Services Battalion.

As a Chief Warrant Officer-4 (CW4) and the Officer In Charge (OIC) of the 3rd Personnel Command’s Alternate Casualty Area Command (CAC) during both Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom, she helped establish an automated patient tracking system to monitor casualties throughout the theater of operations. This system allowed her and others to track both hostile and non-hostile casualties in theater, European, and Continental United States (CONUS) level III/IV medical treatment facilities. Price then translated this data into daily reports to all theater Major Subordinate Command Personnel Offices and allowed leaders to accurately report casualty status to their commands.

She was awarded a Bronze Star Medal for performing those tasks in an exemplary manner despite difficult conditions, constrained resources, and an extremely high threat level.

“CW4 Price supervised and managed the preparation of supplemental and progressive casualty report information on more than 600 hostile and non-hostile casualties in theater,” according to the Bronze Star citation. “The reports and procedures she helped design ...will likely change personnel doctrine for casualty reporting and will doubtless be implemented by combatant commands engaged in future operations.”

“We were one of two casualty offices in theater,” said Price. “One was at Camp Arifjan and the other was at Camp Doha.”

As an Army reservist, she was notified on Saturday, Jan . 4, to be ready to go in 24 hours.

“I reported to the Reserve Center on White Bridge Road Sunday morning, Jan 5,” recalled Price, “and left for Louisville where I was assigned to a detachment. On Jan. 10th we went to Fort Campbell. On Feb. 7th, we took 14-hour

bus ride from Ft. Campbell to Baltimore, where we then caught a plane to Kuwait. We were one of the first Personnel Units in Kuwait.”

Price said she was tasked with improving the casualty function of keeping units informed of the status of their casualties.

“To track casualties,” said the contract specialist, “we developed a database and updated information every six hours with data provided by our liaison teams.

We tracked level III and above hospitals. Levels I and II are like aid stations at the battalion level, level III and above are the actual field and combat hospitals. We then determined if they were returned to duty or if they were evacuated to other hospitals in either Spain or Germany. If they were evacuated we continued to track them back them back to hospitals in CONUS and, finally, to their rear detachment units in CONUS. That was quite a difficult task.”

Price said her husband, who is a Vietnam veteran, was very supportive when she was asked to mobilize for the first time. And as a result of her stay in Kuwait, she now can go with him to VFW meetings as a member and not an auxiliary.



U.S. Army Photo

Contract Specialist Sharon Price deployed to Kuwait in early February with only 24 hours notice. While there she helped develop a system that now may be adopted Army wide for keeping track of battlefield casualties. For her work, Price was awarded the Bronze Star Medal.

“We experienced SCUD alerts maybe 15 times a day,” recalled Price with a smile, “and had to go to Mission Oriented Protective Posture or MOPP Level 4, which is the gas mask and full chemical suit for protection.” She regularly experienced temperatures of 115 to 120 degrees.

“It was an experience I won’t soon forget and I don’t want to do it again right away,” she laughed.

She came to work for Nashville District only two months before being mobilized for duty in Kuwait where 12-hour work days, seven days a week, with no days off, were common.

“You don’t get a chance to do any sight-seeing when you are over there!” concluded Price. 🏠

Center Hill Focus of Carbon Monoxide Study

Story and photos by
Dave Treadway

Carbon Monoxide has been called the silent killer.

It's a colorless, odorless byproduct of fire and internal-combustion engines. A single carbon atom binds with a single oxygen atom to form the molecule written as CO — a form that oxygen-carrying hemoglobin in the blood prefers 240 times more than the oxygen (O2) the body needs. If a person breathes both in together, the body will be starved of oxygen.

Early symptoms of exposure include headache, nausea, dizziness, confusion. Continued exposure can cause unconsciousness. In the water, that can lead to drowning.

Center Hill Lake became the focus of a study August 15, 16, and 17 by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Atlanta as representatives monitored boaters and passengers to determine their level of exposure to carbon monoxide.

"I am glad Center Hill was chosen as one of four lakes for the CO study," said Park Ranger Mark Herd, who worked closely with the study team. I welcome any study that will give us information to make it safer for our visitors to use our project."

"Mark Herd did a great job coordinating the logistics for the CDC to conduct this important study at Center Hill Lake," explained Carolyn Bauer. "He took four epidemiologists on a tour of some possible



Kevin Dunn talks to a boater August 16 about participating in CO study.

locations and they selected Center Hill Marina and Ragland Bottom Recreation Area. Both areas are heavily used with lots of folks launching their boats. They studied boaters before they went out on the lake and when they returned. Regardless of the results of the study, the CDC coming to Center Hill Lake is a positive way to educate the public on the dangers of carbon monoxide poisoning."

Officials focused on runabouts, cruisers and pontoon boats while at Center Hill. Lake Sidney Lanier in Georgia, Grapevine Lake in Texas, and Youghiogheny River Lake in Pennsylvania were the other Corps lakes.

Dr. Amanda Brown, the Lead Epidemiologist on the Carbon Monoxide Study, explained the problem and the monitoring process.

"The normal carboxyhemoglobin (COHb) levels (a compound formed when inhaled carbon monoxide combines with hemoglobin, binding more tightly than oxygen and rendering the

hemoglobin incapable of transporting oxygen) on a non-smoker is 0.0 to 2.0," said Brown. "A smoker blows between 5 and 10 percent. We ask in our study if anyone on the boat has been smoking around them so we can control for that if somebody does have an elevated level.

"If an adult non-smoker blew a reading of more than 10 percent they would probably be getting a headache, they might feel dizzy, have trouble concentrating. They might feel a little nauseated. So we would recommend they call their family physician."

Dr. Brown and colleagues, Dr. Aileen Kenneson, John Lemos, Kevin Dunn, Tursynbek Nurmagambatov, Marcus Gaffney, and Carlos Bell, first set up Saturday morning at Center Hill Marina and asked boaters to participate in the study by blowing into a device that measured their carboxyhemoglobin levels.

Dr. Brown and her team recruited a total of 66 volunteers during the entire weekend. They sampled from

the Center Hill Marina and day use ramp on Saturday. On Sunday, they recruited from the Ragland Bottom day use ramp where 48 percent of boaters agreed to participate. No boater recorded a reading of more than 2 percent COHb.

Sample subjects were asked to inhale and hold their breath for a few seconds, then exhale completely into the monitoring device. The digital readout showed their

recorded level. Each was also asked a series of survey questions to support the study. Subjects were compensated for their time with \$10 per study participant. They were also provided literature about the dangers of CO poisoning and how to avoid it.



Exhaust fumes are evident when a motor is first started but invisible and odorless once the engine warms up and the craft is underway, two facts that can make for deadly situations.

For water safety professionals, this is a relatively new problem area, and relatively new for medical professionals as well. Nationwide, about 750 people die every year in boating accidents, and most of them drown.

The Coast Guard began alerting the boating public in June that up to 15 percent of boat-related drownings could involve carbon monoxide.

There is a sport growing in popularity called teak surfing where people hang onto the board at the stern of the boat and become horizontal as the craft accelerates and their body skims along on the surface of the water. But while they are doing this, they are breathing this deadly carbon monoxide, undetectable until it is too late.

To avoid Carbon Monoxide, boaters should use the following checklist:

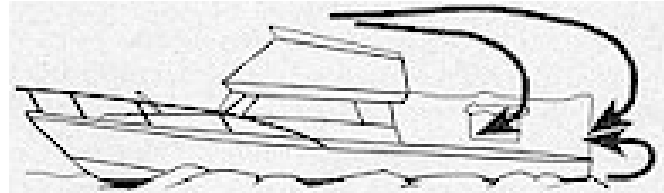
Checklist Each Trip

- 1) Boat Smart. Boat Safe. Wear you life jacket.
- 2) Educate all passengers about carbon monoxide poisoning.
- 3) Make sure all exhaust clamps are in place and secure.
- 4) Look for exhaust leaking from exhaust system components, indicated by rust and/or black streaking, water leaks, or corroded or cracked fittings.
- 5) Inspect rubber exhaust hoses for burned or cracked sections. All rubber hoses should be pliable and free of kinks.
- 6) Confirm that water flows from the exhaust outlet when the engines and generator are started.
- 7) Listen for any change in exhaust sound that could indicate an exhaust component failure.
- 8) Test the operation of each carbon monoxide detector by pressing the test button. Make sure the battery is installed properly and is in good condition. Never remove the battery unless replacing it with a new battery.
- 9) Avoid dangerous activities, such as teak surfing, that result in exposure to high levels of carbon monoxide.

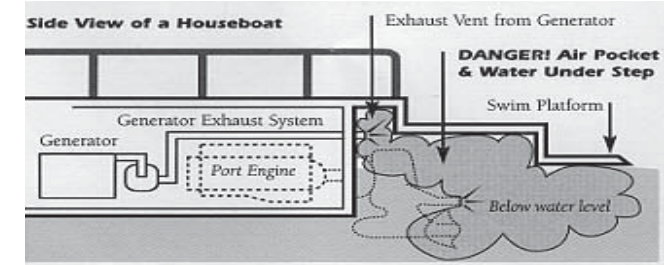


Dr. Amanda Brown explains the monitoring process to Park Ranger Mark Herd.

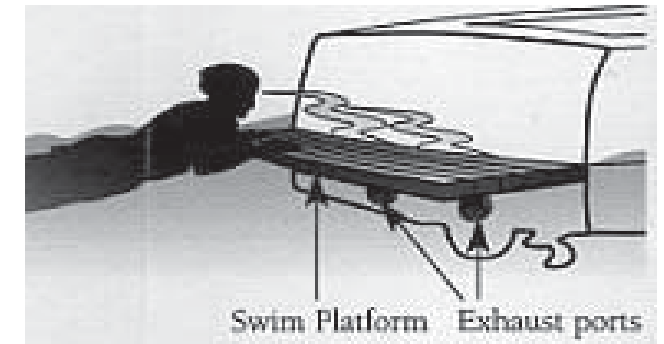
Graphics courtesy of Utah Dept. of Natural Resources.



The "station wagon effect" can cause carbon monoxide to accumulate inside the cabin or on the bridge.



Carbon Monoxide can rapidly build up to dangerous levels.



Teak surfing, dragging and water skiing within 20 feet of a moving watercraft can be fatal.